

Application Serial No. 10/666,883

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A process for using an association between relating a service provider resource and with a fixed identifier to that allows resource requestors to consistently access a service provider resource without being affected by changes to the service provider resource, the process comprising the steps of:

a central server providing request reception means on a central server for receiving a resource information request from a resource requestor concerning for a particular resource;

extracting a fixed service provider resource identifier from said resource information request, said service provider resource identifier having a one to one correspondence with an associated service provider resource;

~~wherein said identifier is a predetermined identifier;~~

providing a resource information database resident on said central server that contains cross references from service provider resource identifiers to service provider resource information, wherein said database contains containing resource information for all of the service providers within the central server's area of responsibility, said wherein the database resource information for each resource comprising at least includes, but is not limited to, resource description and resource a universal resource locator (URL) address and substantive descriptive information concerning the resource;  
and

~~wherein said central server accessing references said database using said extracted service provider resource identifier and retrieving retrieves an associated service provider resource's information from said database.~~

2. (Original) The process of Claim 1, wherein said central server's area of responsibility is locality, assignment, or trust based.

3. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 1, wherein said service provider resource identifier is a universal resource identifier (URI).

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4. (Original) The process of Claim 1, wherein said central server returns the retrieved service provider resource information to said resource requestor.
5. (Original) The process of Claim 4, wherein said central server verifies said resource information request before returning the retrieved service provider resource information.
6. (Original) The process of Claim 1, wherein said resource requestor uses the URL from the retrieved service provider resource information to access the resource from the service provider.
7. (Original) The process of Claim 1, wherein said resource requestor uses the retrieved service provider resource information to display the resource description to a user.
8. (Currently Amended) A process for using an association between ~~relating~~ a service provider resource and with a fixed identifier to that allows resource requestors to consistently access a service provider resource without being affected by changes to the service provider resource, the process comprising the steps of:
  - a service provider site providing request reception means on a service provider site for receiving a resource information request from a resource requestor concerning for a particular resource;
  - extracting a fixed service provider resource identifier from said resource information request, said service provider resource identifier having a one to one correspondence with an associated service provider resource;
  - ~~wherein said identifier is a predetermined identifier;~~
  - providing a resource information database resident on said service provider site that contains cross references from service provider resource identifiers to information concerning for associated resources of said service provider, said ; wherein the database resource information for each resource comprising at least includes, but is not limited to, resource description and resource a universal resource locator (URL) address and substantive descriptive information concerning the resource; and

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~~wherein~~ said service provider site accessing ~~referencees~~ said database using said extracted service provider resource identifier and retrieving ~~retrieves an~~ associated service provider resource's information from said database.

9. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 8, wherein said service provider resource identifier is a universal resource identifier (URI).

10. (Original) The process of Claim 8, wherein said service provider site returns the retrieved resource information to said resource requestor.

11. (Original) The process of Claim 10, wherein said service provider site verifies said resource information request before returning the retrieved resource information.

12. (Original) The process of Claim 8, wherein said resource requestor uses the URL from the retrieved resource information to access the resource from the service provider.

13. (Original) The process of Claim 8, wherein said resource requestor uses the retrieved resource information to display the resource description to a user.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for using an association between relating a service provider resource and ~~with~~ a fixed identifier to that allows resource requestors to consistently access a service provider resource without being affected by changes to the service provider resource, the apparatus comprising:

a request reception module on a central server configured to receive ~~means on a central server for receiving~~ a resource information request from a resource requestor concerning ~~for~~ a particular resource;

an extraction module configured to extract ~~for extracting~~ a fixed service provider resource identifier from said resource information request, said service provider resource identifier having a one to one correspondence with an associated service provider resource;

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~~wherein said identifier is a predetermined identifier;~~

a resource information database resident on said central server that contains cross references from service provider resource identifiers to service provider resource information, ~~;~~ ~~wherein said database contains~~ containing resource information for all of the service providers within the central server's area of responsibility, ~~said~~ ~~;~~ ~~wherein the database resource information for each resource comprising at least includes, but is not limited to, resource description and resource a universal resource locator (URL) address and substantive descriptive information concerning the resource;~~ and

an accessing and retrieval module, configured to access ~~wherein said central server references said database using said extracted service provider resource identifier and to retrieve~~ ~~retrieves an associated service provider resource's information from said database.~~

15. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein said central server's area of responsibility is locality, assignment, or trust based.

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein said service provider resource identifier is a universal resource identifier (URI).

17. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein said central server returns the retrieved service provider resource information to said resource requestor.

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 17, wherein said central server verifies said resource information request before returning the retrieved service provider resource information.

19. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein said resource requestor uses the URL from the retrieved service provider resource information to access the resource from the service provider.

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20. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein said resource requestor uses the retrieved service provider resource information to display the resource description to a user.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for using an association between relating a service provider resource and with a fixed identifier to that allows resource requestors to consistently access a service provider resource without being affected by changes to the service provider resource, the apparatus comprising:

a request reception module on a service provider site configured to receive means on a central server for receiving a resource information request from a resource requestor concerning for a particular resource;

an extraction module configured to extract for extracting a fixed service provider resource identifier from said resource information request, said service provider resource identifier having a one to one correspondence with an associated service provider resource;

wherein said identifier is a predetermined identifier;

a resource information database resident on said service provider site that contains cross references from service provider resource identifiers to information concerning for associated resources of said service provider, said ; wherein the database resource information for each resource comprising at least includes, but is not limited to, resource description and resource a universal resource locator (URL) address and substantive descriptive information concerning the resource; and

an accessing and retrieval module, configured to access wherein said service provider site references said database using said extracted service provider resource identifier and to retrieve retrieves an associated service provider resource's information from said database.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 2021, wherein said service provider resource identifier is a universal resource identifier (URI).

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23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 2021, wherein said service provider site returns the retrieved resource information to said resource requestor.

24. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 23, wherein said service provider site verifies said resource information request before returning the retrieved resource information.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 2021, wherein said resource requestor uses the URL from the retrieved resource information to access the resource from the service provider.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 2021, wherein said resource requestor uses the retrieved resource information to display the resource description to a user.